

Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council

Friday, July 26, 2013

BMCW Teutonia Office

Minutes

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Members Present:

Linda Davis, County Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Kim Kampschroer, Mallory O'Brien, State Representative LaTonya Johnson, Mary Sowinski for John Chisholm, Steve Gilbertson, Judge Dwyer for Judge Joe Donald.

Notice of Meeting

The notice for the meeting was published in the Wednesday, July 17, 2013 edition of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Second, the notice was faxed to the newspaper of record for the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin State Journal, on Wednesday, July 17, 2013. Finally, the notice was emailed to the Partnership Council stakeholders including any media who had requested such notice on Monday, July 15, 2013.

This satisfies the requirements for notice under Wis. Stat. 19.84(1)(b).

Minutes from January 25, 2013 meeting.

No quorum.

Director's Report, Arlene Happach

BMCW Director Arlene Happach reported on the following ongoing and new initiatives:

- Intensive In-Home Services Redesign
 - o Work with unsafe cases – those facing removal of children
 - o Work with court involvement and court partners
 - o 24/7 availability – visits based on family's needs
 - o More services delivered in house
 - o Flexible caseloads
- Foster Parenting
 - o Co-parenting booklet has been developed to encourage communication between foster and biological parents.
 - o Working on a process for foster parents to be at case staffings.
- Initial Assessment
 - o Bureau has experienced a significant loss of staff.
 - o Committee was created to look at the problem and possible solutions including second shift, work at home and EAP debriefings.
 - o Eliminated need for social worker certification in order to be hired by the Bureau.
 - o Crisis Prevention Institute will be doing train the trainer to help with worker safety.
- Education
 - o New MOU with Head Start providers.
 - o Encouraging foster families to get into high quality daycares.

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- New Facility
 - o We will be moving into the new bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare facility soon.
 - o The new building will house the current Administrative, South 70th Street, and Teutonia offices.
- Driver's License for youth
 - o We are working on helping youth get driver's license. Working with COA to possibly provide driver's training scholarships.

Wraparound, Bruce Kamradt

- Wraparound is a children's public health safety system
- Provides services for children with mental health needs.
- Goal is to keep children in the homes.
- FISS (Family Intervention Support and Services) program
 - o Assesses and provides services to families experiencing difficulties with adolescents. Goal is to help parents support their adolescent and prevent the need for legal intervention.
 - o Voluntary program with two components – assessment and case management.
- MUTT (Mobile Urgent treatment Team)
 - o Works in collaboration with BMCW.
 - o Helps to stabilize, support and maintain children/adolescents in foster care placement who are experiencing a mental health or behavioral crisis.

DSP Updates, Fredi-Ellen Bove

- DSP recently held a graduation ceremony for current and former foster children.
- An application for a federal grant has been submitted to provide two years of planning for youth 14-17, aged out or homeless, to help them get better outcomes with housing, stability, education and employment.
- Title IV-E Waiver – we will be putting in place reunification services replicating services in Milwaukee County.

Committee Updates

- There will be a Medical Home update at the next meeting.

Out of Home care/Adoption

- The committee has been focusing on permanency and stability, youth in care to age 21 who have an IEP, and time to TPR.

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- Will be working on getting people on the Critical Incident, Out of Home Care and Health committees.

The Department is drafting legislation working on Partnership Council appointments for presiding Children's Court judge and the District Attorney's office.

Community Forum

Discussed identity theft and other issues facing youth who have aged out of foster care.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Zellner